

Minutes of the Cultural Arts Commission

March 14, 2012

Members Present: John Moser
Shari Bergel
Abe Brown
Liliane Blom
Howard Faulkner
Teresa Harn
George Northway
Lynn Willis
Angela Younger

Members Absent: Ken Lechter
Deborah Stokes

Mayor & Council Liaison: Councilmember John Hall

Staff Present: Betty Wisda, Betsy Thompson

John Moser, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. in the Diamondback Terrapin Room at Rockville City Hall.

Re: Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes for the February 22 meeting were unanimously approved by the Cultural Arts Commission.

Re: Chairperson's Report

No Report.

Re: Staff Report

Betty Wisda distributed the Staff Report and Census Results/February 2012. She provided an update on the site preparations and the installation phase for the East Rockville Art Project.

Re: Task Force/Committee Updates

Art in Public Places

No report.

Outreach

No report.

Arts Facilities

No report.

Re: "Incorporation of Works of Art in Public Architecture" Ordinance

Georg Northway reported that the Art in Public Places (AIPP) Committee met on March 7 to discuss possible changes to the "Incorporation of Works of Art in Public Architecture". The AIPP Committee recommended the following changes to the ordinance.

1. Section 4-34 Duties of City Manager. No changes.

2. Section 4-35 Duties of Cultural Arts Commission. No changes.

3. Section 4-36 City construction projects. The Cultural Arts Commission may recommend to the Mayor and Council a dollar amount that is less than the one percent appropriation of the estimated total construction cost of the project and the remaining balance may be used on other projects. If the one percent appropriation is unused on a determined project, the funds will be cumulative and made available for other projects at a later date.

During the discussion, John Moser recommended the following wording for Section 4-34 (a). The City Manager shall make a determination as to the applicability and/or implementation of this article to a project after discussion with the Cultural Arts Commission.

The Cultural Arts Commission unanimously recommended the changes to Section 4-36 and Section 4-34(a).

Re: Art In Public Places

Betty Wisda distributed the following language to the Cultural Arts Commission for discussion purposes based on Councilmember Newton's request regarding purchasing an expensive work of art that would have a more significant impact on the community.

1. The Art in Public Places (\$1 per capita) program provides an opportunity to earmark funds to purchase a significant work of art for a highly visible and accessible site.

2. For example, the Cultural Arts Commission recommended saving up funds for public art for the newly constructed Rockville Town Square. The Commissioners recommended to previous Mayors and Councils to defer spending of the Art In Public Places funds in several fiscal years to generate \$250,000 for purchase of works of art at this high priority site.

3. Since 1979, the following two Art In Public Places projects had the highest budgets.

a. "Spirit of Rockville", bronze sculpture/fountain in Courthouse Square Park

\$175,000 (\$130,000- City of Rockville's contribution and \$45,000- Rockville Center, Inc's contribution)

b. "Colorplay", aluminum and glass sculpture in The Village Green at Fallsgrove

\$150,000 (\$75,000- City of Rockville's contribution and \$75,000- Developer's contribution)

4. The Cultural Arts Commission has discussed recommending larger budgets to purchase work of arts for "Gateway" projects that are highly visible when you enter the city limits of Rockville; such as Wootton Parkway at Falls Road, Veirs Mill Road, Norbeck Road and Route 355.

5. The CAC is on record with a recommendation to restore the \$1 per capita funds for in the Operating Budget Fiscal Year 2013. The \$1 per capita funds would need to be restored in order to generate or "save up" public art funding to allow the City to purchase a more expensive work of art that would in theory have a much more significant impact on the community and perhaps in terms of putting Rockville on the cultural map.

The Cultural Arts Commission unanimously recommended this language in response to Councilmember Newton's request.

Re: Role of Mansion Subcommittee

John Moser reported that Ken Lechter and he attended a special meeting with representatives of the Recreation and Park Advisory Board, the Historic District Commission, Planning staff and Recreation and Parks staff on February 24. He recommended the following items. The Cultural Arts Commission stay involve with this subcommittee. Each board or commission should have two representatives. There should be a rotation of the

Chairperson for the subcommittee. The subcommittee will still address the implementation of the 2002 Long-Range Plan for the Glenview Mansion and Grounds. The name of the subcommittee should be changed to "The Civic Center Subcommittee".

The Cultural Arts Commission unanimously recommended these items. John Moser will submit a letter to the Mayor and Council with these recommendations.

Re: Culture and Entertainment Plan

The Cultural Arts Commission unanimously recommended a formation of a standing subcommittee for the Culture and Entertainment Plan. Betty Wisda reported that a meeting of staff representing the Arts Division, the Special Events Division, the Civic Center Division, the Historic Preservation Division, the Neighborhood Resources Division and the Public Information Office met to discuss the plan on March 14.

Re: Old Business

None.

Re: New Business

None.

Re: Next Meetings

The next meetings will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 11 at Rockville City Hall.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.